

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STOCKH 04991 231533Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /089 W
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P R 231437Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2388
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSIN USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 4991

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, SW, US
SUBJECT: GOS OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXAMINING HUMAN RIGHTS
MATTERS IN SWEDISH FOREIGN POLICY

REF: STATE 278883 (NOTAL)

1. HANS DANIELIUS, DIRECTOR, LEGAL DIVISION, MFA, IS PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBLE OFFICER FOR EXAMINING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS IN SWEDISH FOREIGN POLICY. DANIELIUS WAS CHIEF SWEDISH DELEGATE TO MEETING LAST FEBRUARY OF UN COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND WORKED CLOSELY THERE WITH US REP ALLARD LOWENSTEIN (SEE STOCKHOLM 543). DANIELIUS WAS INFORMED ON NOVEMBER 23 OF INTEREST OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN IN MEETING SWEDISH OFFICIALS IN SWEDEN OR WASHINGTON. DANIELIUS SAID DERIAN WOULD BE MOST WELCOME HERE AND HE WAS CERTAIN THAT FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS COULD BE HELD.

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2. OTHER SWEDISH MFA "EXPERTS" IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA WOULD INCLUDE GOS REPS TO CURRENT CSCE FOLLOW-UP MEETING IN BELGRADE: AMBASSADOR BERTIL ARVIDSON, DELEGATION HEAD; AMBASSADOR CAI MOLIN; AND SECTION CHIEF KERSTIN ASP-JOHNSON. WE SHOULD ADD, OF COURSE, THAT THE MFA, DESPITE THE COMPLEXITY OF ITS RESPONSIBILITY, CONTINUES TO BE COMPOSED OF A RELATIVELY SMALL GROUP OF CAREER OFFICERS. THE TOP

LEADERSHIP, THEREFORE, IS ABLE TO DISCUSS, IN CONSIDERABLE
DETAIL AND WITH GREAT AUTHORITY, ALL ASPECTS OF HUMAN
RIGHTS MATTERS OF INTEREST TO GOS. THESE TOP OFFICIALS
WOULD INCLUDE FM KARIN SODER, SEC GEN LEIF LEIFLAND AND
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR KNUT THYBERG.

3. AREAS OF MAJOR SWEDISH CONCERN IN HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD
ARE CHILE, ARGENTINA, SOUTHERN AFRICA, UGANDA AND SOUTH
KOREA. GOS LEADERS HAVE ALSO SPOKEN OUT STRONGLY, ALTHOUGH
NOT AS FREQUENTLY, AGAINST PATTERNS OF VIOLATIONS IN
SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

4. IN THE UN CONTEXT, SWEDEN CONTINUES TO BE EXTRAORDINARILY
ACTIVE IN HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS--BUT PARTICULARLY IN FOLLOWING
FOUR AREAS: (1) TREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS;
(2) CHILE; (3) CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE; AND (4) ABOLISHMENT
OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. SWEDEN ALSO IS A CO-SPONSOR
OF PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH POSITION OF HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS.

4. DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO STOCKHOLM 4849
WHICH DESCRIBES SWEDISH NON-GOVERNMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS
ORGANIZATIONS, A LIST HEADED BY THE SWEDISH BRANCH OF
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. SHOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR DERIAN
TO VISIT STOCKHOLM, EMBASSY WOULD HOPE SHE WOULD AGREE
TO MAKE ONE OR MORE PUBLIC APPEARANCES TO DISCUSS NEW
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EMPHASIS IN US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES, AND WHERE SHE
MIGHT MAKE DIRECT CONTACT WITH SUCH ORGANIZATIONS.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE WOULD BE GREAT UTILITY IN
EARLY VISIT TO STOCKHOLM BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN
AND HOPES HER SCHEDULE WILL PERMIT.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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